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Washington LABOR MARKET

May 1988

JOB SERVICE

Washington State
Employment Security

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Commissioner

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In cooperation with the
Employment and Training
Administration
U.S. Department of Labor

Highlights

Concern Shifts to Inflation

In less than seven months concern over the nation's economy has shifted from an expected drop in demand, production and jobs to the belief that the economy is growing so rapidly that inflation will escalate. Following the stock market sell-off last October, demand was widely expected to fall substantially because of the loss in wealth and a drop in consumer confidence. A large build up in business inventories in the fourth quarter added to the belief that a recession was near. Rather than a recession, the first quarter of this year has seen unexpectedly strong domestic and foreign demand fuel growth in industrial output and jobs.

To economists, however, good news bears closer inspection. Some analysts now worry that the nation's economy is expanding too rapidly, which may result in rapidly escalating prices and end the economic expansion. Whether that occurs or

Volume 12, Number 5

	Apr. 1988* (Prel.)	Mar. 1988 (Rev.)	Apr. 1987
Civilian Labor Force	2,315,600	2,289,000	2,219,300
Total Employment	2,165,600	2,119,500	2,046,700
Total Unemployment	150,000	169,500	172,600
State Unemployment Rate	6.5	7.4	7.8
National Civilian Unemployment Rate	5.3	5.9	6.2

*These data represent alternative estimates of labor force conditions developed by the State Employment Security Department. They are more comparable with data released in previous years than are the official Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates developed for federal program purposes. (Data in this table are not seasonally adjusted.)

not will largely depend on how successful the Federal Reserve is in restraining the expansion without precipitating a recession. In any event, it is less stressful to worry about whether too many jobs are being created than the alternative.

Job Growth Strong

Employment growth in the state continued to expand at a brisk pace in April, adding 46,100 jobs from March. The gain had a seasonal flavor, but even after adjustment for the normal seasonal expansion, the total rose 20,300. Over the year, total employment in the state was up 118,900. Nationally the civilian job total added 2.6 percent year to year, but the increase in Washington State was 5.6 percent.

Lowest April Unemployment Since 1969

Reflecting expanded employment opportunities, unemployment in the state fell from 169,500 and 7.4 percent of the labor force in March to 150,000 and 6.5 percent in April. The April rate was the lowest for that month in 19 years, since 1969. On a seasonally adjusted basis, the rate fell from 6.9 to 6.4 percent over the month.

State Again Leads Nation

While economic development efforts are still required, especially outside of the Puget Sound area, it is interesting to see how far the state's economy has come in the past five years. In April 1983, an estimated 244,500 workers were unemployed, or 94,500 more than in April this year. The jobless rate then was

11.8 percent compared with 6.5 percent this April. The outlook then was bleak. Aerospace and lumber employment were both in a slump, work on nuclear plants was being terminated and default on the bonds issued to construct them loomed. Employment growth in the state was expected to lag that of the nation for the rest of the decade rather than lead it as it had in the 70s. And job growth in the state was slower than in the nation in 1983 through 1985. In 1986, however, the state's economy was again leading that of the nation. Since April 1983, total employment in the state has increased 345,300 or 19 percent. Nationally, employment was up 15.2 percent over the five year period ending April 1988.

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

Agriculture Leads Expansion

The beginning of the asparagus harvest in Eastern Washington resulted in several thousand new farm jobs. Farm workers were also busy on the west side picking daffodils and tulips and pulling field rhubarb, while preharvest work accelerated throughout the state. Nonfarm employment jumped 24,800 in April. Here too, the asparagus harvest contributed with large gains in food processing and at vegetable warehouses.

Manufacturing Job Growth Vigorous

Manufacturing employment rose 4,900 from March to April, and while much of the gain was seasonal, manufacturing employment was up 19,100 over the year in April. Moreover, the relative expansion in manufacturing of 6.2 percent in the 12-month period exceeded growth in the nonmanufacturing industries of 4.4 percent. Significantly, the expansion has been broadly based, not just in aerospace. Aerospace (up 8,200) posted the largest year-to-year increase, but 10,900 jobs were added in other manufacturing industries. Sizable year-to-year gains were credited to lumber (up 1,300), aluminum (up 1,100), machinery (up 1,700), "other transportation equipment" (up 1,600), food products (up 2,100), and printing-publishing (up 1,200).

Asparagus--The Long Green

Food plants added 3,100 workers in April to begin processing this year's asparagus crop. Washington State ranks second in the production of asparagus and accounts for well over one-third of the nation's total. The year-to-year increase of 2,100 jobs in food products, however, is favorably influenced by

season timing. In March the year-to-year increase was 1,100, which is probably a more realistic measure of growth in the industry.

Lumber Employment Holds Up Well

Lumber and wood products employment increased 500 in April. Even with the settlement of a labor dispute, the gain was somewhat less than normal for this time of the year. The exceptionally mild winter, however, resulted in fewer layoffs then and consequently fewer recalls this spring. Industry employment continues to lead its year-ago level (up 1,300) despite a decline in lumber production resulting from fewer housing starts this year. Year-to-date production of dimension lumber through the week ended May 21, 1988 was down 13.6 percent over the year in western Oregon and Washington according to the Western Wood Products Association. However, production was 114 percent of the similiar period in 1979, which was a strong year for the industry. Log exports remain brisk and are probably the major reason for the year-to-year employment gain. In addition, lumber mills are now more automated, and cutbacks in production do not produce as large a reduction in jobs as when the industry was more labor intensive.

In other manufacturing industries, stone-clay-glass added 200 in April with seasonal demand from the construction industry picking up. Greater activity in construction also helped boost fabricated metals payrolls 200. The end of a temporary layoff at one plant to modernize equipment was also a factor.

Aerospace Jobs Growing Slowly

Aerospace added 200 workers in April. Expansion in the industry has slowed considerably from last year, but judging by Boeing's growing backlog of orders, there is little likelihood of a cutback in the near future. "Other Transportation equipment" also added 200 jobs in April; all of the increase was in boatbuilding and the miscellaneous category (trucks, trailers, etc.). Shipbuilding was down because of the final shutdown of Lockheed.

Hanford Cutback Showing Up

Chemicals was the only manufacturing industry to show a loss in April or over the year. Employment in the industry fell 200 in April and was 1,000 below its year-ago level because of cutbacks at Hanford. Further cutbacks will occur because of the decision to end plutonium production on the Hanford Nuclear Reservation.

Restaurants Up Seasonally

Retail trade led the expansion in the nonmanufacturing industries in April with a gain of 6,300. Eating and drinking places alone accounted for 2,900 additional jobs, or about 45 percent of the total, as improving weather encouraged people to take short trips or eat out after work. Food stores also posted a substantial gain as usual for this time of the year. Other largely seasonal increases were noted at building material-garden supply stores, gasoline service stations, and apparel stores. Wholesale trade payrolls moved up 1,400 in April to support the expanding retail sector and because of an expansion at vegetable warehouses where asparagus was being packed and shipped.

Growing Sales Boost Jobs In Trade

Over the year, the number of retail trade jobs increased 15,900, or 4.8 percent, with gains in nearly all sectors. The expansion, of course, reflects population growth and the increase in purchasing power created by an expanding economy. Wholesale trade employment rose 3,700 year-to-year in response to the growth on the retail level.

One of Three New Jobs In Services

Employment in the services industries rose 5,400 in April helped by seasonal expansion in several activities. Long-term growth in the industry, however, continues to outpace the overall expansion in the economy. Service employment has increased 29,500 over the year to account for one out of every three new nonfarm jobs in the state's economy. Medical services alone rose 8,300 due to a growing elderly population and presumably more families covered by prepaid medical plans because of increasing employment. Business services added about 9,200 jobs over the year in response to the needs of an expanding business community for data processing services, janitorial services, advertising, credit reporting, equipment leasing, protective services and personnel. Personnel supply agencies alone added almost 3,400 workers over the year. A growing tendency has been reported to hire permanent workers to handle the regular workload and to contract for workers needed for special projects and seasonal work.

Several service industries expanded in April including agricultural services where lawn and garden business picked up; hotels and motels added staff with more tourist activity; firms offering income tax preparation services were at their annual peak; social services also expanded

with employment growth increasing the need for child care services, and business and medical services continued their long-term growth trend.

Construction Going Up--Outlook Uncertain

Construction employment rose 5,400 between March and April and was up a heady 9,500 (11 percent) over the year. Both the over-the-month and over-the-year comparisons, however, may have benefited from faster seasonal growth this year. The increase from March was led by street and highway construction, but employment in road building was down slightly over the year. Nonresidential construction and special trade contractors (electrical, plumbing, painting, etc.) led the over the year expansion. Residential construction employment was up more modestly, but the outlook for homebuilding is uncertain in the months ahead.

Housing units authorized in the state totaled 37,600 in 1987 but were over 41,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in the final two quarters of the year. In the first quarter of this year, however, they fell to 36,000 units because of higher interest rates. Unfortunately, interest rates climbed again this spring. Nationally, the average rate on a 30-year conventional mortgage rose from less than ten percent at the end of March to 10.32 percent in the week ending May 6.

Government Payrolls Down in April

Civilian government payrolls dipped 400 in April as a seasonal increase in outdoor employment was more than offset by a seasonal decline in public education. With the school year approaching an end, fewer workers who leave are replaced. Over the year, government employment rose only 2,100 with a drop on the federal level of 1,400 and a gain of 3,500 (1.2 percent) on the state and local level. Education rose 2,300 because of higher enrollments and accounted for most of the new state and local jobs.

AREA TRENDS

The Two Washington's

Washington State's economy as a whole is strong and vigorous judged by statewide statistics. Statewide data, however, mask local problems. The state's growth since the last recession has largely occurred in the Seattle, Tacoma, Olympia and Vancouver metropolitan areas and that trend is continuing. In those four Western Washington metropolitan areas, the combined jobless rate in April was 5.6 percent compared with 8.1 percent

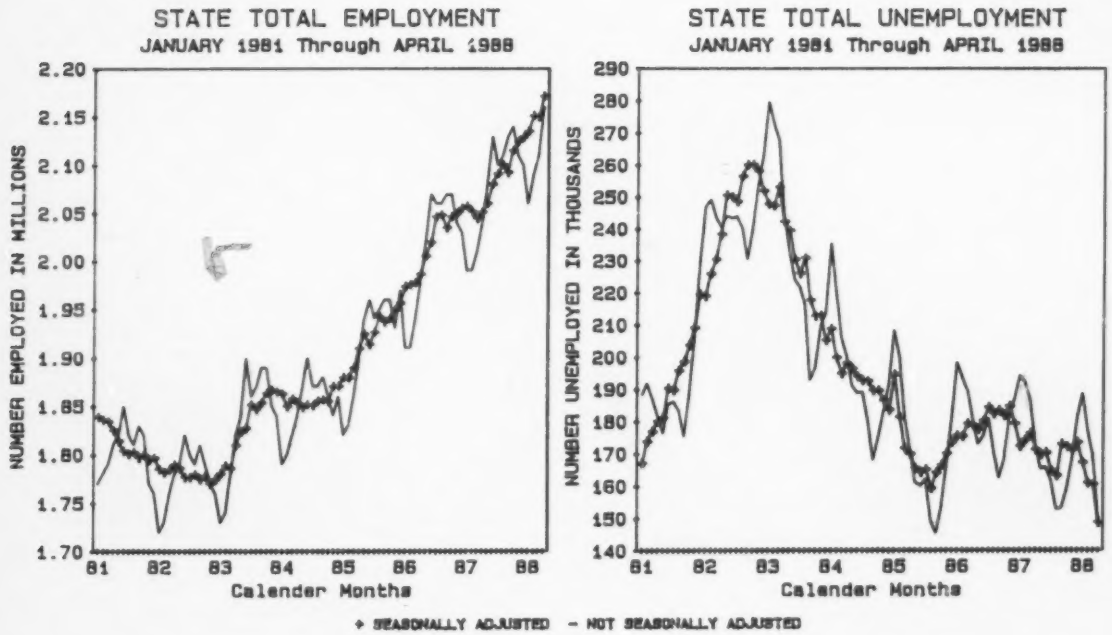
for the remainder of the state. Even the 8.1 percent rate hides wide disparities. In 11 of the state's 39 counties the April jobless rate was over ten percent with Pend Oreille County topping the list at 17.5 percent. Moreover, the uneven distribution of job growth in the state does not appear to be changing. The Seattle, Tacoma, Olympia and Vancouver metropolitan areas with 60 percent of the state's population in 1987 accounted for 75 percent of the job growth between's April 1987 and 1988.

Eastern Washington Leads April Upturn

As usual in April Eastern Washington led the expansion because of the asparagus harvest, related food processing, packing and shipping. Employment east of the Cascades rose 4.2 percent between March and April and the unemployment rate dropped from 10.4 to 8.4 percent. In Western Washington employment rose a more moderate 1.6 percent and the jobless rate fell from 6.6 to 5.9 percent.

Changes in employment and unemployment were especially large in areas raising and processing asparagus. Many of these jobs were filled by migrant workers from other states so the drop in unemployment was less than the increase in employment. Nevertheless, unemployment declined substantially. In Columbia County employment jumped from 1,680 to 3,030 over the month, while the jobless rate sank from 20.4 to 7.6 percent. In Yakima County employment rose nearly eight percent, while its unemployment rate fell from 13.8 to 11.0 percent. Grant County saw its job total rise 11 percent, and its unemployment rate fall from 14.1 to 9.4 percent.

In the state's major metropolitan areas, which are less influenced by agriculture, changes were more moderate. The jobless rate in the Seattle Metropolitan Area fell from 5.7 to 5.2 percent between March and April; Tacoma's rate slipped from 7.2 to 6.8 percent, while Spokane's rate dropped from 7.3 to 6.3 percent.



INDUSTRY NOTES

Billion Dollar Orders for Boeing

In May, The Boeing Company received three firm orders for 180 jetliners valued at nearly $7 billion and purchase options for another 104 jets worth $4.2 billion. The new orders are not expected to boost employment at Boeing but should offset the likely decline in military business in subsequent years. Many of the aircraft ordered were for Boeing 757s which will largely be used to replace aging 727s and 737s. The 757 is 25 percent more fuel efficient than comparable aircraft, is quieter, and can be flown by a crew of two rather than the three required for 727s and 737s.

The largest order was from International Lease Finance Corp (ILFC). The company placed firm orders for 100 aircraft and took options for 24 more. With options, the order was valued at $4.6 billion. Deliveries on the firm orders will extend from April 1989 through December 1995. A major reason for placing the order now was replacement needs and crowded production lines. According to an ILFC spokesman, all aircraft manufacturing is booked up until 1991, and by 1993, about 53 percent of all commercial jets will be more than 20 years old.

The other two large orders were from American Airlines and United Airlines. American Airlines ordered fifty 757s and took options on 50 more. With options the order was valued at up to $4.2 billion. Delivery of the planes will begin in 1989. United Airlines ordered thirty 757s and placed options for 30 more. The order, including options was valued at over $2 billion. Deliveries on the firm orders from United will begin in August 1989 and continue through 1991.

Bremerton Shipyard Cuts Possible

An unpublished Navy planning document shows estimates of employment at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard falling from 11,400 now to 8,500 in the fall of 1990 and then climbing back to 10,000 in 1991. The projections are based on ship repair and modernization assignments. U.S. Representative Norm Dicks, however, said that while planning documents have some substance, he does not expect cuts as dramatic as those forecast. According to Dicks, the Bremerton shipyard is in a very secure position because it is the only one on the West Coast which overhauls nuclear submarines and carriers, which is a critical requirement. A spokesman for the shipyard said that Bremerton is not the only yard where there will be wide swings in employment. He noted that the upturn forecast in 1991 coincides with the shipyard's scheduled major overhaul of the aircraft carrier Carl Vinson.

Kaiser Workers Regain Some Pay Losses

A tentative agreement between the United Steelworkers union and Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corp. carries a $1,000 signing bonus and an increase in base pay of 50 cents an hour. The proposed contract would restore three paid holiday suspended three years ago and adds a cost-of-living adjustment in the second year. The contract also provides for quarterly bonuses based on the mid-west price of aluminum ingots. A maximum of $2 an hour would be paid when aluminum prices are 81 cents a pound or over. No bonus would be paid when aluminum prices are 53 cents a pound or less. Aluminum prices are now over $1 per pound.

Kaiser has three plants in Washington: one in Tacoma and two in Spokane County. If the contract is approved by union members, it will run through October 1990.

Lower Dollar Hurts Lynnwood Firm

The decline in the value of the dollar relative to foreign currencies has helped exporters but not importers. Carver Corp., a Lynnwood firm, which designs, develops and markets high fidelity audio components, terminated 65 employees in May because of a $264,000 loss in the first quarter. About 43 percent of the 1987 products sold by Carver were made in Japan. Presumably, the cost of those products increased as the value of the dollar declined. A company spokesman said that the firm has intensified its marketing and research and development efforts to turn the company around.

NATIONAL INDICATORS

Full Ahead

Major national economic indicators continued on a positive track. Factory orders and industrial output posted strong gains; the Gross National Product (GNP) advanced more than expected in the first quarter as the trade deficit declined, and the Index of Leading Economic Indicators rose for the third consecutive month in April.

Factories Humming

Orders for manufactured goods rose 1.6 percent in April following a 1.6 percent gain in March and a no change in February, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce. In the first four months of this year, factory orders were up 9.9 percent from the comparable period in 1987. Separately the Federal Reserve reported industrial production rose 0.7 percent in April to underscore the expansion in manufacturing. Over the year, production was up 6.2 percent in the nation's mines, utilities and factories. April production at 82.7 percent of capacity was at its highest level since March 1980.

GNP Up Strongly

Growth in the Gross National Product (GNP), a measure of the nation's output of goods and services, for the first quarter was revised up to 3.9 percent by the Commerce Department. The increase was down from 4.8 percent in the final quarter of 1987, but the gain in the fourth quarter largely resulted from a build up in inventories. Many analysts expected little growth in the GNP, believing production would slow in the first quarter as inventories were worked off. That didn't occur. A large part of the inventory buildup was in imported goods, which did not impact domestic production.

Nearly one-half of the expansion in the GNP for the first quarter resulted from an improvement in the trade deficit. Exports rose at a 20.7 percent rate, while imports rose 3.4 percent, measured in 1982 dollars and seasonally adjusted. Consumer spending also rebounded 4.3 percent in the first quarter after declining in the fourth quarter. Residential investment, however, declined 2.4 percent because of rising interest rates.

Purchasing Agents Predict Strong Economy But Rising Prices

The National Association of Purchasing Management in its semiannual economic poll found that its members expected a better economy in 1988 than in 1987 by a seven to one margin. Major reasons cited for the improvement were growth in exports and increased capital spending. The manufacturers represented by the group were operating at their highest capacity rate since May 1979. The association has 30,000 members.

Along with an expanding economy for 1988, however, the purchasing managers also predicted an increase in the rate of inflation. Average prices are expected to increase 5.8 percent this year by the group. In April, the U.S. Consumer Price Index, all items, urban consumers, was up 3.9 percent over the year.

Leading Indicators Edge Higher

The Index of Leading Economic Indicators, the government's main gauge of future economic activity, edged up 0.2 percent in April following increases of 0.2 percent (revised) in March and 1.5 percent in February. Leading indicators pushing the index forward in April were an increased workweek for manufacturing production workers, fewer initial claims for unemployment benefits, an advance in the business delivery index, higher prices for industrial materials, and growth in the money supply. Orders for consumer goods were slightly negative, but the main factors checking the advance in the index were a decline in building permits and stock market prices. Stock prices have shown wide swings since their initial recovery from the sell-off in October but no apparent trend. Building permits have declined because of rising mortgage rates.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1982-1984=100)**

	INDEXES			PERCENT CHANGE Year Ending	
	Apr. 1988	Mar. 1988	Apr. 1987	Apr. 1988	Mar. 1988
U.S. City Average	117.1	116.5	112.7	3.9	3.9
	July-Dec. 1987	July-Dec. 1986		July-Dec. '86 to July-Dec. '87	
Seattle*	110.3	106.7		3.4	

* The index for Seattle reflects prices in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties.

** The base period for the index has been changed from 1967=100 to 1982-1984=100. The conversion factors for the All Items, Urban Consumers Indexes on the 1967=100 base are U.S=0.3338279, Seattle=0.3280421.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

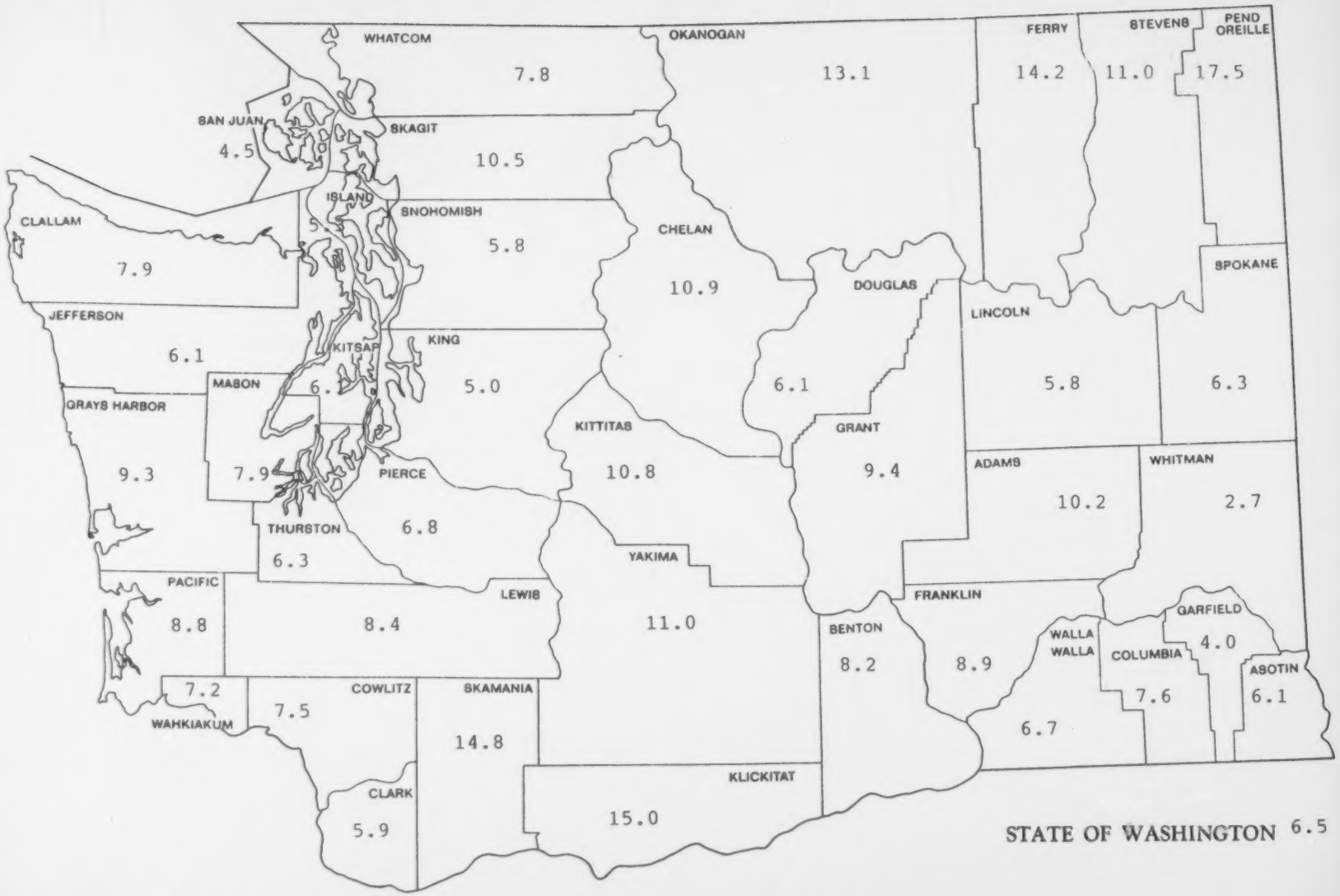
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE & SALARY WORKERS IN WASHINGTON STATE, PLACE OF WORK 1/
(In Thousands)

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED Industry	April 1988 (PREL.)	March 1988 (REV.)	April 1987 (REV.)	March 1987 (REV.)	Numerical Change Apr. 1988 to Mar. 1988	Numerical Change Apr. 1987 to Apr. 1988
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE AND SALARY.....	1901.1	1876.4	1815.1	1792.2	24.7	86.0
MANUFACTURING.....	328.9	324.0	309.8	306.1	4.9	19.1
Durable Goods.....	232.5	230.8	216.8	214.9	1.7	15.7
Lumber & Wood Products.....	40.2	39.6 3/	38.9	38.1	0.6	1.3
Furniture & Fixtures.....	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.7	0.0	0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass.....	6.5	6.3	6.3	6.0	0.2	0.2
Primary Metals.....	12.0	11.9	10.8	10.8	0.1	1.2
Aluminum.....	8.2	8.2	7.1	7.0	0.0	1.1
Fabricated Metals.....	10.5	10.3	9.8	9.7	0.2	0.7
Machinery.....	30.6	30.6	28.9	28.5	0.0	1.7
Machinery (Exc. Elec.)...	17.4	17.4	15.9	15.6 3/	0.0	1.5
Electrical Equip.....	13.2	13.2	13.0	12.9	0.0	0.2
Transportation Equip.....	113.1	112.7	103.3	103.1	0.4	9.8
Aerospace.....	98.4	98.2	90.2	89.6	0.2	8.2
Other Transp. Equip.....	14.7	14.5	13.1 3/	13.5 3/	0.2	1.6
Instruments & Related.....	10.9	10.8	10.6	10.5	0.1	0.3
Misc. Manufacturing.....	5.0	4.9	4.6	4.5	0.1	0.4
Nondurable Goods.....	96.4	93.2	93.0	91.2	3.2	3.4
Food & Kindred Products....	33.5	30.4	31.4	29.3	3.1	2.1
Canned & Preserved Foods.	13.1	9.9	11.4	9.5	3.2	1.7
Apparel & Allied Products..	6.1	6.0	5.6	5.8	0.1	0.5
Paper & Allied Products....	16.4	16.4	16.3	16.4	0.0	0.1
Printing & Publishing.....	20.9	20.8	19.7	19.7	0.1	1.2
Chemicals & Allied Products	10.7	10.9	11.7	11.6	-0.2	-1.0
Other Nondurable Goods 2/.	8.8	8.7	8.3	8.4	0.1	0.5
MINING & QUARRYING	3.3	3.2	2.9	2.8	0.1	0.4
CONSTRUCTION.....	92.6	87.2	83.1	80.1	5.4	9.5
TRANSP.,COMM. & UTIL.....	100.7	99.6	95.6	95.0	1.1	5.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE.....	461.5	453.8	441.9	435.6	7.7	19.6
Wholesale Trade.....	112.0	110.6	108.3	106.9	1.4	3.7
Retail Trade.....	349.5	343.2 3/	333.6	328.7 3/	6.3	15.9
FIN. INS. & REAL ESTATE.....	107.7	107.1	106.9	106.0	0.6	0.8
SERVICES.....	442.3	436.9	412.8	407.5	5.4	29.5
Health Services.....	135.4	134.6	127.1	126.8	0.8	8.3
GOVERNMENT.....	364.1	364.6	362.1	359.1	-0.5	2.0
Federal.....	69.4	69.0	70.8	69.3	0.4	-1.4
State & Local.....	294.8	295.6	291.3	289.8	-0.8	3.5
Education.....	158.7	159.5	156.4	158.7	-0.8	2.3
WORKERS IN LABOR-MANAGEMENT DISPUTES.....	0.0	0.2	0.8	1.2	-0.2	-0.8

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

2/ Includes textile mill products, rubber and miscellaneous plastic products, petroleum refining and related products, and leather products.

3/ Workers excluded because of involvement in labor-management disputes.



STATE OF WASHINGTON 6.5

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

RESIDENT LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE AND LABOR MARKET AREAS

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

DATE 6/1/88
Benchmark: 1987

	APRIL 1988 PRELIMINARY 1/				MARCH 1988 REVISED 1/				APRIL 1987 REVISED			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State total	2,315,600	2,165,600	150,000	6.5	2,289,000	2,119,500	169,500	7.4	2,219,300	2,046,700	172,600	7.8
Bellingham MSA	80,500	75,800	4,700	7.8	59,500	54,200	5,300	8.9	57,200	52,400	4,800	8.4
Bremerton MSA	73,600	69,100	4,500	6.1	73,000	68,100	4,900	6.7	71,700	67,400	4,300	6.0
Olympia MSA	76,100	71,300	4,800	6.3	75,600	70,300	5,300	7.0	73,000	67,500	5,500	7.5
Seattle PMSA	1,035,800	982,300	53,500	5.2	1,030,200	971,800	58,400	5.7	983,200	922,900	60,300	6.1
King County 2/	821,800	780,800	41,000	5.0	816,800	772,400	44,400	5.4	780,200	733,600	46,600	6.0
Snohomish County 2/	214,000	201,500	12,500	5.8	213,400	199,400	14,000	6.6	203,000	189,300	13,700	6.7
Spokane MSA	167,800	157,300	10,500	6.3	167,800	155,500	12,300	7.3	163,900	151,600	12,300	7.5
Tacoma PMSA	249,100	232,200	16,900	6.8	245,800	228,000	17,800	7.2	234,800	214,400	20,400	8.7
Tri-Cities MSA	68,000	62,300	5,700	8.4	66,600	60,000	6,600	9.9	70,300	64,100	6,200	8.8
Benton County 2/	52,200	47,900	4,300	8.2	50,900	46,200	4,700	9.2	53,800	49,300	4,500	8.4
Franklin County 2/	15,800	14,400	1,400	8.9	15,700	13,800	1,900	12.1	16,500	14,800	1,700	10.3
Vancouver PMSA	114,500	107,700	6,800	5.9	112,600	104,900	7,700	6.8	108,600	99,700	8,900	8.2
Yakima MSA	91,000	81,000	10,000	11.0	87,100	75,100	12,000	13.8	87,700	76,900	10,800	12.3
Adams	6,770	6,080	690	10.2	6,580	5,780	800	12.2	6,260	5,650	610	9.7
Asotin	9,000	8,450	550	6.1	8,930	8,290	640	7.2	8,460	7,730	730	8.6
Clallam	23,030	21,210	1,820	7.9	22,570	20,410	2,160	9.6	22,330	20,300	2,030	9.1
Columbia	3,280	3,030	250	7.6	2,110	1,680	430	20.4	3,040	2,790	250	8.2
Cowlitz	35,800	33,130	2,670	7.5	35,190	32,150	3,040	8.6	35,090	31,200	3,890	11.1
Ferry	2,670	2,290	380	14.2	2,680	2,200	480	17.9	2,500	2,160	340	13.6
Garfield	1,000	960	40	4.0	1,030	930	100	9.7	1,070	980	90	8.4
Grant	24,240	21,960	2,280	9.4	22,960	19,720	3,240	14.1	23,810	21,010	2,800	11.8
Grays Harbor	25,250	22,890	2,360	9.3	25,000	22,350	2,650	10.6	25,990	23,040	2,950	11.4
Island	18,690	17,700	990	5.3	18,500	17,480	1,020	5.5	18,200	17,130	1,070	5.9
Jefferson	7,720	7,240	480	6.2	7,480	6,920	560	7.5	7,610	7,060	550	7.2
Kittitas	11,070	9,870	1,200	10.8	11,330	9,920	1,410	12.4	11,310	9,890	1,420	12.6
Klickitat	7,860	6,680	1,180	15.0	7,750	6,280	1,470	19.0	7,310	5,520	1,790	24.5
Lewis	25,210	23,090	2,120	8.4	24,540	22,020	2,520	10.3	23,930	21,130	2,800	11.7
Lincoln	3,990	3,760	230	5.8	3,900	3,620	280	7.2	4,140	3,870	270	6.5
Mason	12,470	11,480	990	7.9	12,280	11,200	1,080	8.8	12,470	11,380	1,090	8.7
Okanogan	15,190	13,200	1,990	13.1	15,030	12,490	2,540	16.9	14,530	12,460	2,070	14.2
Pacific	6,220	5,670	550	8.8	6,030	5,420	610	10.1	6,350	5,690	660	10.4
Pend Oreille	3,020	2,490	530	17.5	3,030	2,470	560	18.5	3,050	2,430	620	20.3
San Juan	5,370	5,130	240	4.5	4,930	4,620	310	6.3	4,750	4,450	300	6.3
Skagit	32,700	29,280	3,420	10.5	32,460	28,600	3,860	11.9	31,420	27,560	3,860	12.3
Skamania	2,570	2,190	380	14.8	2,210	1,740	470	21.3	2,650	2,160	490	18.5
Stevens	11,440	10,180	1,260	11.0	11,330	9,840	1,490	13.2	11,240	9,740	1,500	13.3
Wahkiakum	1,110	1,030	80	7.2	1,100	990	110	10.0	1,190	1,050	140	11.8
Walla Walla	24,460	22,810	1,650	6.7	23,470	20,950	2,520	10.7	23,880	21,940	1,940	8.1
Wenatchee Labor Area	40,210	36,430	3,780	9.4	39,850	35,430	4,420	11.1	37,740	33,480	4,260	11.3
Chelan County 2/	27,660	24,650	3,010	10.9	27,680	23,970	3,710	13.4	25,750	22,660	3,090	12.0
Douglas County 2/	12,550	11,780	770	6.1	12,160	11,450	710	5.8	12,000	10,830	1,170	9.8
Whitman	18,830	18,320	510	2.7	18,590	18,010	580	3.1	18,600	18,020	580	3.1

1/ Estimates provided here are for use as an economic time-series.

2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

WASHINGTON STATE LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES FOR FEDERAL PROGRAM PURPOSES

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

June 1, 1988
Benchmark: 1987

	APRIL 1988 PRELIMINARY 1/				MARCH 1988 REVISED 1/			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State total	2,318,800	2,173,400	145,400	6.3	2,302,600	2,132,600	170,000	7.4
Bellingham MSA	60,600	56,000	4,600	7.6	59,900	54,600	5,300	8.8
Bremerton MSA	73,800	69,400	4,400	6.0	73,400	68,500	4,900	6.7
Olympia MSA	76,300	71,600	4,700	6.2	76,000	70,700	5,300	7.0
Seattle PMSA	1,037,700	985,800	51,900	5.0	1,036,400	977,800	58,600	5.7
King County 2/	823,400	783,600	39,800	4.8	821,800	777,200	44,600	5.4
Snohomish County 2/	214,300	202,200	12,100	5.6	214,700	200,600	14,100	6.6
Spokane MSA	167,900	157,800	10,100	6.0	168,900	156,500	12,400	7.3
Tacoma MSA	249,400	233,100	16,300	6.5	247,300	229,500	17,800	7.2
Tri-Cities MSA	68,000	62,500	5,500	8.1	67,000	60,400	6,600	9.9
Benton County 2/	52,300	48,100	4,200	8.0	51,200	46,500	4,700	9.2
Franklin County 2/	15,700	14,400	1,300	8.3	15,800	13,900	1,900	12.0
Vancouver PMSA	114,700	108,100	6,600	5.8	113,300	105,600	7,700	6.8
Yakima MSA	91,000	81,300	9,700	10.7	87,500	75,500	12,000	13.7
Adams	6,770	6,110	660	9.7	6,620	5,820	800	12.1
Asotin	9,010	8,480	530	5.9	8,980	8,340	640	7.1
Clallam	23,050	21,280	1,770	7.7	22,700	20,530	2,170	9.6
Columbia	3,290	3,040	250	7.6	2,120	1,690	430	20.3
Cowlitz	35,830	33,250	2,580	7.2	35,400	32,350	3,050	8.6
Ferry	2,670	2,300	370	13.9	2,700	2,220	480	17.8
Garfield	1,010	970	40	4.0	1,040	940	100	9.6
Grant	24,250	22,040	2,210	9.1	23,100	19,850	3,250	14.1
Grays Harbor	25,270	22,980	2,290	9.1	25,150	22,490	2,660	10.6
Island	18,730	17,770	960	5.1	18,610	17,590	1,020	5.5
Jefferson	7,730	7,270	460	6.0	7,520	6,960	560	7.4
Kittitas	11,080	9,910	1,170	10.6	11,390	9,980	1,410	12.4
Klickitat	7,840	6,700	1,140	14.5	7,800	6,320	1,480	19.0
Lewis	25,220	23,170	2,050	8.1	24,680	22,150	2,530	10.3
Lincoln	4,000	3,780	220	5.5	3,920	3,640	280	7.1
Mason	12,480	11,520	960	7.7	12,360	11,270	1,090	8.8
Okanogan	15,170	13,240	1,930	12.7	15,110	12,560	2,550	16.9
Pacific	6,220	5,690	530	8.5	6,080	5,460	620	10.2
Pend Oreille	3,020	2,500	520	17.2	3,040	2,480	560	18.4
San Juan	5,390	5,150	240	4.5	4,970	4,650	320	6.4
Skagit	32,700	29,390	3,310	10.1	32,640	28,770	3,870	11.9
Skamania	2,560	2,190	370	14.5	2,220	1,750	470	21.2
Stevens	11,430	10,210	1,220	10.7	11,400	9,910	1,490	13.1
Wahkiakum	1,120	1,040	80	7.1	1,110	1,000	110	9.9
Walla Walla	24,490	22,890	1,600	6.5	23,610	21,080	2,530	10.7
Wenatchee Labor Area	40,230	36,560	3,670	9.1	40,080	35,650	4,430	11.1
Chelan County 2/	27,660	24,740	2,920	10.6	27,840	24,120	3,720	13.4
Douglas County 2/	12,570	11,820	750	6.0	12,240	11,530	710	5.8
Whitman	18,880	18,380	500	2.6	18,700	18,120	580	3.1

1/ Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. Data are not comparable with estimates made in previous years.
2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

ESTIMATED AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING AND OF NONSUPERVISORY WORKERS IN NONMANUFACTURING ACTIVITIES, STATE OF WASHINGTON

	Prelim Apr Production Workers/ Nonsupervisory Workers	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
		Apr-88	Mar-88	Apr-87	Apr-88	Mar-88	Apr-87	Apr-88	Mar-88	Apr-87
TOTAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES*	192,611	$466.87	$473.20	$482.00	39.7	40.0	40.0	$11.76	$11.83	$12.05
SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Lumber and Wood Products	34,809	$437.78	$411.41	**$443.37	40.2	38.2	39.8	$10.89	$10.77	$11.14
Primary Metal Industries	9,363	$537.41	$556.86	$532.13	43.2	44.8	42.3	$12.44	$12.43	$12.58
Fabricated Metal Products	8,061	$439.88	$432.38	$443.92	39.1	38.4	39.6	$11.25	$11.26	$11.21
Machinery	14,920	$369.76	$371.05	$370.56	38.8	39.6	38.4	$9.53	$9.37	$9.65
Food and Kindred Products	24,504	$334.05	$359.56	$345.47	35.2	37.1	35.8	$9.49	$9.69	$9.65
Chemical and Allied Products	4,228	$577.38	$594.81	$618.80	41.9	42.7	42.5	$13.78	$13.93	$14.56
Transportation Equipment	48,810	$567.84	$590.64	$616.92	42.0	42.8	42.4	$13.52	$13.80	$14.55
SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Construction	66,708	$586.77	$584.50	$600.36	36.4	36.6	36.9	$16.12	$15.97	$16.27
Wholesale and Retail Trade (does not include eating and drinking establishments)	279,180	$314.25	$307.13	**$319.59	32.7	32.5	33.5	$9.61	$9.45	$9.54

* Average hourly earnings for all manufacturing production workers reported in this table do not exactly reflect the official US Bureau of Labor Statistics definition of "wages." While these data still constitute a valid economic indicator series, they should not be used at this time for the negotiation of contracts whose monetary provisions may depend upon official US Bureau of Labor Statistics hourly earning data.

** Affected by labor-management disputes.

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